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To the Public.

That the impartial World may be acquainted with the Proceedings of the State of Vermont, and judge of the Propriety of their Conduct, I thought it my Duty to publish the foregoing, and have to observe if any unprejudiced Mind will be at the Trouble of examining into the Rights of the People on the New Hampshire Grants to a seperate Jurisdiction, will find it indisputable; the People aforesaid conseder-ing themselves under no previous Obligations to any State of a permanent Nature whereby the aforesaid Right was made void, and that there was no material Difference between the said Grants on the East and West Side of Connecticut River to the Right aforesaid, therefore the Grants East of said River confederated in Government with those on the West Side, and all became equally bound to support and defend said Confederation, and cannot dissolve their Connection without violating their Faith; the two Articles of Union quoted in the proceedings of the Committee of the Legislature of said State, are the Principles on which the Union stands; the Meaning of said Articles are apparently this, That the People on the Grants East, was not to submit the Independence of those West of the River aforesaid, to any Power, but when the Independence of the Latter was recognized, the setting of the Line between the two States determined the Jurisdiction of the former, which was to be submitted to Congress, or any disenterested Tribunal, and that such a Determination might be obtained, the Legislature aforesaid appointed Delegates to solicit Congress for a final Decision on the Premises, which appears by their Proposals to the Committee of Congress of the 18th of August last. Had not New Hampshire and New York by their Agents resisted the aforesaid Proposals, the Dispute between said States would doubt-

less have been settled, or might yet be accommodated. Perhaps it will be said Congress are determined not to recognize the Independence of Vermont, if this be true, let a Line be settled between New Hampshire & New York, and all Disputes are at an end. — Will nothing satisfy the Ambition of New Hampshire but driving an innocent People under sacred Obligation to one Jurisdiction, to violate their Faith by Submitting to a Power, many of whom have ever been endeavouring (as they conceive) to divide the Grants aforesaid, against their true Interest and Disposition.

But it is said that the People on the East of Connecticut River are under previous Obligations to New Hampshire (which they conceive not to be the Case) and that Congress have made a final Decision on the Subject, and guaranteed all the Lands East of the River aforesaid, to New Hampshire. — See the Resolution of Congress, — "In Case Congress shall recognize the Independence of the People of Vermont, they will consider all the Lands belonging to New Hampshire and New York without the Limits of Vermont aforesaid". Until the former is done, is the latter of any Force? Surely none. But there is a Resolution of the 20th of August last confirming the aforesaid Resolution, and requesting the People of Vermont West of said River, to relenquish all Claims and Demands of Lands East of the West Banks of Connecticut River, and West of a certain Line, or they should not be admitted into the foederal Union of the United States. To what does this amount? Nothing but a Demand of what was not in their Power to comply with, without violating their most solemn Compact, as Congress had just been informed by our said Delegates.

Had the foregoing Resolutions been explicit and final, the Engagements of the People east of the River aforesaid, would have been void, agreeable to the Articles of Union mutually entered into. But had New Hampshire

rather be at the Expence of sending a Force to attempt to subject the People aforesaid, than to wait a final Decision of Congress on the Matter, which would settle all Disputes, and make Laws to bring Offenders against their supposed Jurisdiction, out of the Counties of Grafton and Cheshire, to any Part of the State for Trial, contrary to all Principles of Liberty, and refused to listen to any Proposals from the State of Vermont for a just and amicable Settlement between the two States, and conferred one of their Agents (the Subscriber) appointed by the Authority of said State to wait on the Assembly of New Hampshire with Propositions of Peace. If Matters are pursued in this Way, will it not drive the People in the Country aforesaid, to Despair, and be productive of Bloodshed, Devastation, and Division, that can never be settled.

Being fully perswaded, that the People of New Hampshire were not acquainted with the Proceedings of Vermont, and the Pains they had taken for a Settlement of all Disputes, induced me to publish the foregoing, with these Observations, and have to add, that what is contained in this Publication, is the Sentiments of the People of Vermont, tho' perhaps not of all their Leaders.

I am the Public's most faithful
Servant,
William Page.

Exeter Goal, Jan. 12th, 1782.

N.B. It has been reported that Vermont wish to put off any Determination until the Spring; at which Time the expect Assestance from Canada; I have the Faith and Confidence to say, that would New Hampshire join with Vermont in the Settlement of a Line on Principles of Justice Vermont would be admitted into Union with the United States, and firmly

attached to their Interest in less than two Months.